THE
Theatrical Observer:
AND
Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice."—OTHELLO.

No. 2420. *Monday, Sept.* 14, 1829. *Price* 1*d.*

"The Play's the thing!"—Ask for *Thomas's Observer.*

English Opera House.

THE new Drama of *The Recruit* was performed here on Saturday evening, for the fourth time, to a very respectable audience. The characters of *Agnes* and *Albert* were played by Miss Kelly and J. Vining in a manner to satisfy the most fastidious of critics. Keeley was truly laughable as a pedagogue, and still more so as a *grenadier.* Mrs. Keeley, in the scene where he presented himself to her *en militaire,* acted with great ability; her mirth at his ridiculous appearance—her anger at his jealousy—and her grief at the idea of parting from him—were delineated in the most natural manner, and drew great applause.

The Interlude of *Sold for a Song* was afterwards acted in a very pleasing manner; Russell was excellent in the *Count,* his song 'Pasticcio' was encored, but as there was much opposition to its repetition he only sang part of it the second time. Wood sang his different airs in capital style, and was encored in the English ballad. The Misses Cawse were all smiles, and ringlets; and Salter filled his part with tact. *The Spring Lock* concluded, and sent the audience home in high good humour: we have seldom seen a stage rencontre more laughable and effective, than that between the rival Doctors;—it excited great merriment and repeated plaudits. Miss Cawse sang her scena before entering the cabinet, with considerable taste and execution, and Wood sang with great sweetness.

Haymarket Theatre.

ON Saturday evening, after the Comedy of *Speed the Plough,* the Farce of *The Two Pages of Frederick the Great* was performed; when Mr. W. Farren sustained the part of *Frederick* with the same ability, and the same attention to costume, and peculiarity of manner, which marked his representation of the eccentric Swedish monarch; and, equally with that, might be considered as a perfect histrionic picture. The *Pages* were tolerably well represented by Mrs. T. Hill and Miss M. Glover. Williams's *Phelps,* was good; and Mrs. Humby's *Madame Phelps* still better. The new Farce of *William Thompson* was afterwards acted for the second time, and, despite its gross improbabilities, by the laughable nature of some of the incidents, its constant bustle, and the humorous acting of J. Reeve, the audience were kept in a continued roar. We have not seen Reeve to so much advantage in a new character for a long time; he was highly laughable, without indulging in so much grimace or such fantastical attitudes as he too often exhibits. Vining, Williams, Miss F. H. Kelly, and Mrs. Ashton, supported their respective characters excellently.

The performance concluded with *The Happiest Day of my Life.* Webster depicted the perplexities of *Mr. Gilman*, with a good deal of comic effect, and had we never seen Liston in the character, we should perhaps have been more satisfied with Webster, who certainly did his best: the other parts were admirably sustained as usual.

The Subscription for Covent Garden Theatre is going on slowly, but we hope surely. Among the free-gifts are, the Duke of Devonshire £100, Mr. Soane, £100, besides a loan of £200, Lord Kenyon, £40, &c. In addition to the Subscriptions of money, the Theatre is to be supported by a voluntary contribution of first-rate talent. Sir. G. Smart has offered to conduct the musical department for the season gratuiously. Miss Foote offers to play ten, and Miss Kelly six, nights, without emolument; and these liberal offers will doubtless find many imitators.

A Theatre Burned.—On the 4th of August, the Mount Pitt Circus, in Grand Street, New York, was discovered to be in flames, and in half an hour it was a heap of ruins. It had not been occupied as a Theatre, having been prevented opening till the payment of 250 dollars was paid for a licence. It was erected in 1826, and was calculated to contain 4000 persons. This is the third Theatre which has been destroyed by fire in that city within the last fifteen months.—The Bowery Theatre, May 25, 1828, Lafayette Theatre, April 10, 1829, Circus, August 4th, 1829. The first has been rebuilt, the two last, it is presumed, never will be, unless theatrical amusements be more attractive.

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer.

Dear Mr Editor, I address you from the Cigar Divan, King-street, Covent Garden, having just popt in to take a cup of Coffee, whiff a true Havannah, kill an hour over one or two of the Morning and Evening Papers—skim the Magazines, and play a game of Chess—delightful place——Just wish to say a word—beg pardon, hope I don't intrude—but will you excuse me—I have to mention, that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends, and the fashionable world, at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town.

On Monday, must take another peep at the two new views, at the Diorama Regent's Park—was puzzled to decide which was the most beautiful, St. Peter's or the Village of Thiers—both exquisitely painted—the pictorial illusion complete—the water flowing, smoke ascending, sun shining—quite nature itself.—Had difficulty to persuade a fair lady next me, that we were really viewing merely pictures. Shall put off my journey to Italy, as I'm told, *sub rosa*, we shall have other views from that classic soil; and if as good as St. Peter's wil satisfy me.

On Tuesday, I drop into the Exhibition of Sculpture, in Old Bond Street, to view the figures, life size, of Tam O'Shanter and Souter Johnny—work of a self-taught artist, James Thom—delighted beyond measure—futly expected to hear Tam's uproarious laugh—the expression so perfect; *pose* of figures admirable. Whoever has read Burns, (and who has not?) must see them.

On Friday, I drop in to examine *Miss Linwood's* curious Needle-Work, in Leicester Square.—but I intrude—beg pardon.

Your's, PAUL PRY.

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Theatre Royal Hay-Market.

This Evening, a Melo-drama, called

The Goldsmith.

The President, Mr W. JOHNSON,
Count Rosemberg.....Mr GALLOT,
Cardillac, Mr COOPER,
Oliver, Mr VINING, Bernard, Mr COVENEY,
James, Mr COATES, Hubert, Mr COOKE.
Isabella, Miss M. GLOVER,
The Countess..... Mrs W. CLIFFORD,
Margaret, Mrs HUMBY.

After which, the Comedy of

Rule a Wife & Have a Wife.

The Duke, Mr BRINDAL,
Juan, Mr THOMPSON, Alonzo, Mr COVENEY,
Leon, (2nd time) Mr COOPER,
Michael Perez.....(2nd time).....Mr VINING,
Cacafogo, Mr WILLIAMS,
Sancho, Mr W. JOHNSON, Lorenzo, Mr COOKE,
Vasco, Mr V. WEBSTER, Diego, Mr COATES.
Margarita, Mrs FAUCIT,
Victoria, Mrs GALLOT, Isabel, Mrs W. JOHNSON,
Estifania, Mrs GLOVER,
Altea, Mrs ASHTON, Clara, Miss BARNETT,
Old Woman, Mr J. REEVE, Daughter, Mr WEBSTER.

After which, (3rd time) a new Farce, called

William Thompson;

Or, Which is He?

William Thompson the First.....Mr VINING,
William Thompson the Second, Mr J. REEVE,
Doctor Soothem.....Mr WILLIAMS, Bailiff.....Mr C. MORRIS,
Waiter, Mr COOKE, Thomas, Mr COATES.
Miss Dormer, Mrs ASHTON, Mary, Miss BARNETT,
Julia, Miss F. H. KELLY.

To-morrow, The Happiest Day of my Life, The Two Friends, The Clandestine Marriage, and William Thompson.

Theatre Royal, English Opera.

This Evening, (4th time) a new Musical Drama, called

THE RECRUIT.

With Boieldieu's Overture to Les Deux Nuits.

Albert Ritzler, (a Swiss Chief) Mr J. VINING,
Col. Lacrosse, (Officer of a FrenchCorps) MrBAKER
Hans Frankhausen, Mr KEELEY,
Pierre Pètard, (Serj. of Grenadiers) Mr O. SMITH,
Hector Le Brun, Mr SALTER,
Antoine, Mr IRWIN, Sentinel, Mr J. COOPER,
Lory Quartz, Mr F. MATTHEWS.

Agnes, (Wife of Albert Ritzler) Miss KELLY,
Elise, (her Sister) Mrs KEELEY.

After which, the Petit Opera of

The Middle Temple.

Briefless, Mr WRENCH, Brutus Hairbrain, Mr KEELEY,
Mr Prettyman, Mr W. BENNETT, Doggins, Mr SALTER.
Penelope, Mrs KEELEY,
Mrs Middlemist, Mrs C. JONES, Julia, Miss H. CAWSE.

To conclude with the Romance of

The Bottle Imp !

Music composed by Mr G. H. Rodwell.

Albert.....(a German Traveller).....Mr WOOD,
Willibald, (his Servant) Mr KEELEY,
Waldeck, Mr F. MATTHEWS, Conrade, (his Son,) Mr BAKER,
Nicola, (a Spaniard) Mr J. VINING,
Shadrac, Mr MINTON, Jomelli, (a Musqueteer) Mr SALTER,
Montorio, Mr J. COOPER, Chamberlain, Mr HEATH,
Serjeant, Mr EAST, Soldier, Mr FULLER, Inquisitor, Mr IRWIN
The Bottle Imp, Mr O. SMITH.
Marcella, (Daughter of Waldeck) Miss CAWSE,
Lucretia....Miss PINCOTT, Philippa.....Miss H. CAWSE.

To-morrow, Der Vampyr, Sold for a Song, & The Sister of Charity.